



Department of Justice

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Northern District of New York

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**HERKIMER COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
OPERATING A MASSIVE MARIJUANA GROW OPERATION**

SYRACUSE, NY – Richard S. Hartunian, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announces that COREY LEITZ, age 41, of Frankfort, New York, pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in Syracuse to a one-count information charging him with knowingly manufacturing over one thousand (1000) marijuana plants.

As part of the plea LEITZ admitted the following:

From August 2011 until December 14, 2011, LEITZ did knowingly manufacture marijuana plants at 162 McIntyre Road, Frankfort, New York. LEITZ set up and maintained a marijuana manufacturing operation inside a barn at this location. By December 14, 2011, LEITZ had successfully grown 3200 marijuana plants. LEITZ then sold the marijuana he manufactured to numerous customers in Herkimer County and elsewhere.

This marks the second felony drug conviction for Leitz who has a prior felony drug conviction in 1998 in Herkimer County.

At sentencing which is set for January 29, 2013, LEITZ faces a mandatory 20 years imprisonment with a potential maximum of life imprisonment. Following his incarceration Mr.

Leitz would be subject to a minimum 10 years of supervised release up to life and a fine of up to \$20,000,000.

This prosecution resulted from a joint investigation undertaken by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the New York State Police, and the New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Brown. Further questions may be directed to Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney John Duncan at (315) 448-0672.